

Introduced by Senator Ashburn

February 19, 2010

An act to amend Section 56001 of the Government Code, relating to local government.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1461, as introduced, Ashburn. Local government: reorganization. The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 sets forth the Legislature's findings and declarations regarding the use of local government reorganization.

This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change in that law.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 56001 of the Government Code is
2 amended to read:
3 56001. The Legislature finds and declares that it is the policy
4 of the state to encourage orderly growth and development which
5 are essential to the social, fiscal, and economic well-being of the
6 state. The Legislature recognizes that the logical formation and
7 determination of local agency boundaries is an important factor
8 in promoting orderly development and in balancing that
9 development with sometimes competing state interests of
10 discouraging urban sprawl, preserving open-space and prime
11 agricultural lands, and efficiently extending government services.
12 The Legislature also recognizes that providing housing for persons
13 and families of all incomes is an important factor in promoting

1 orderly development. Therefore, the Legislature ~~further~~ *also* finds
2 and declares that this policy should be effected by the logical
3 formation and modification of the boundaries of local agencies,
4 with a preference granted to accommodating additional growth
5 within, or through the expansion of, the boundaries of those local
6 agencies which can best accommodate and provide necessary
7 governmental services and housing for persons and families of all
8 incomes in the most efficient manner feasible.

9 The Legislature recognizes that urban population densities and
10 intensive residential, commercial, and industrial development
11 necessitate a broad spectrum and high level of community services
12 and controls. The Legislature also recognizes that when areas
13 become urbanized to the extent that they need the full range of
14 community services, priorities are required to be established
15 regarding the type and levels of services that the residents of an
16 urban community need and desire; that community service
17 priorities be established by weighing the total community service
18 needs against the total financial resources available for securing
19 community services; and that those community service priorities
20 are required to reflect local circumstances, conditions, and limited
21 financial resources. The Legislature finds and declares that a single
22 multipurpose governmental agency is accountable for community
23 service needs and financial resources and, therefore, may be the
24 best mechanism for establishing community service priorities
25 especially in urban areas. Nonetheless, the Legislature recognizes
26 the critical role of many limited purpose agencies, especially in
27 rural communities. The Legislature also finds that, whether
28 governmental services are proposed to be provided by a
29 single-purpose agency, several agencies, or a multipurpose agency,
30 responsibility should be given to the agency or agencies that can
31 best provide government services.